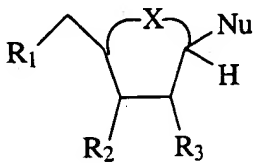
22. A method of treating a host having a flavivirus or rhabdovirus infection, which method comprises administering to the host effective amounts of:

(a) an interferon, and

(b) at least one compound selected from the group consisting of:

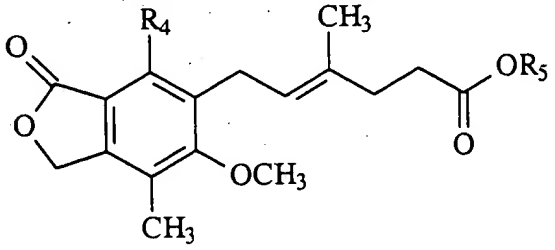
- 5-membered cyclic nucleosides having the formula (I):



(I)

wherein *X *is =CH-, $-CH_2-$ or -O-, Nu is selected from the group consisting of purines, pyrimidines and five- or six-membered aglycones, R_2 and R_3 are independently selected from the group consisting of H, OH, C-acyl, O-aryl and O-silyl, and R_1 is as defined for R_2 and R_3 or is O-phosphate, and pharmaceutically acceptable metabolites, metabolite derivatives and salts thereof;

- mycophenolic acid compounds having the formula (II)

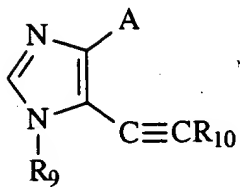


(II).

wherein R_4 is $-OR_6$ or $-N(R_7)\ R_8$ in which R_6, R_7 and R_8 are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and C_1-C_6 alkyl, and R_5 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, phenyl and C_1-C_6 alkyl

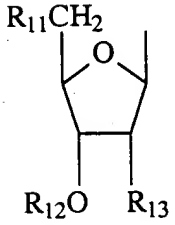
unsubstituted or substituted by a five- or six-membered saturated or unsaturated heterocyclic ring, and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof;

imidazole derivatives represented by formula (III):



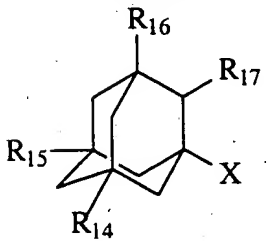
(III).

wherein R_9 is a hydrogen atom or



wherein R_{10} is a hydrogen atom, C_1-C_6 alkyl, hydroxy(C_1-C_6 alkyl) or phenyl, R_{11} and R_{13} are independently selected from hydrogen and OR_{12} and R_{12} is a hydrogen atom or a hydroxy protecting group and A is $CONH_2$ or CN, and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof;

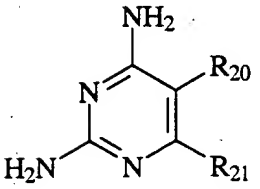
aminoadamantanes having the formula (IV):



(IV).

wherein each of R_{14}, R_{15}, R_{16} and R_{17} is independently selected from the group consisting of H, F and CH_3 and X is $N(R_{18})_2$, $CH_2CH_2N(R_{18})_2$ or $C(R_{19})_2N(R_{18})_2$ wherein each R_{18} and R_{19} is H, (C_1-C_6) alkyl, (C_6-C_{10}) aryl and (C_7-C_{18}) aralkyl; and

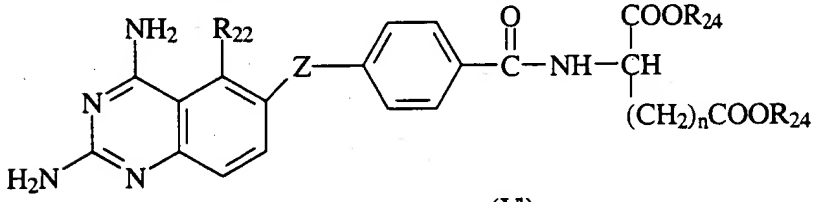
2,4-diaminopyrimidines having the formula (V):



(V)

wherein R_{20}

is phenyl substituted by one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of benzyl, NO_2, (C_1-C_6) alkylamino and halogen and R_{21} is H or C_1-C_6 alkyl; or R_{20} and R_{21} form, together with the 2,4-diaminopyrimidine ring to which they are attached, a quinazoline derivative of formula (V'):



(V')

wherein Z is $-CH_2NR_{23}-$ or $-NR_{23}CH_2-$; R_{22}, R_{23} and R_{24} are each, independently, H or C_1-C_6 alkyl; and n is 1 or 2,and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

23. A method according to claim 22, wherein the flavivirus is selected from yellow fever virus, kunjin virus, dengue virus, hepatitis C virus, St. Louis encephalitis virus, Japanese encephalitis virus, Murray valley encephalitis virus and tick-borne encephalitis virus.

24. A method according to claim 22, wherein the rhabdovirus is selected from vesicular stomatitis virus (VSV) and rabies virus.

25. A method according to claim 22, wherein the interferon (a) is a human interferon.

26. A method according to claim 22, wherein the interferon is selected from interferon α2, interferon α8 and interferon β.

27. A method according to claim 26, wherein the interferon is human interferon α8 having a specific activity of from $0.6x10^9$ to $1.5x10^9$ IU per mg protein.

28. A method according to claim 26, wherein the interferon is human interferon β having a specific activity of from $4x10^8$ to $8x10^8$ per mg protein.

29. A method according to claim 22, wherein the compound (b) is at least one compound selected from cyclopentenyl cytosine, mycophenolic acid, 5-ethynyl-1-β-D-ribofuranosylimidazole-4-carboxamide, amantadine hydrochloride, 3-deazaneplanocin, neplanocin A, 3-deazauridine, 6-azauridine, aristeromycin, pyrazofurin, tiazafurin, selenofurin, NSC 382046, NSC 7364, NSC 302325, NSC 184692D and NSC 382034.

30. Products containing an interferon and at least one compound (b) as defined in claim 22 as a combined preparation for simultaneous, separate or sequential use in treating a flavivirus or rhabdovirus infection.

31. A method of treating a host having a flavivirus or rhabdovirus infection, which method comprises administering an effective amount of an interferon α8 having a specific activity of from $0.6x10^9$ to $1.5x10^9$ IU per mg protein.

32. A method according to claim 31, wherein the flavivirus is selected from yellow fever virus, kunjin virus, dengue virus, hepatitis C virus, St. Louis encephalitis virus, Japanese encephalitis virus, Murray valley encephalitis virus and tick-borne encephalitis virus.

33. A method according to claim 31, wherein the rhabdovirus is VSV.

34. A method according to claim 31, wherein the interferon α8 is human interferon α8.

35. Interferon α8 having a specific activity of from $0.6x10^9$ to $1.5x10^9$ IU per mg of protein for use in a method of treatment of the human or animal body by therapy.

36. Interferon α8 according to claim 35, for use in the treatment of a flavivirus or rhabdovirus infection.

37. An anti-flavivirus or anti-rhabdovirus agent comprising interferon α8 having a specific activity of from $0.6x10^9$ to $1.5x10^9$ IU per mg of protein.

38. A method of treating a host having a flavivirus or rhabdovirus infection, which method comprises the step of administering to the host, in respective amounts which produce a synergistic antiflaviviral or antirhabdoviral effect, an interferon and at least one compound (b) as defined in claim 22.

39. An agent for use in the treatment of a flavivirus or rhabdovirus infection, which comprises an interferon and at least one compound (b) as defined in claim 22.